Production No. 4F01

The Simpsons

"LISA'S DATE WITH DENSITY"

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FINAL 1

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"LISA'S DATE WITH DENSITY"

Cast List

HOMER.....DAN CASTELLANETA

MARGE.....JULIE KAVNER

BART.....NANCY CARTWRIGHT

LISA.....YEARDLEY SMITH

SUPERINTENDENT CHALMERS.HANK AZARIA

PRINCIPAL SKINNER.....HARRY SHEARER

KEARNEY.....NANCY CARTWRIGHT

APU.....HANK AZARIA

CHIEF WIGGUM.....HANK AZARIA

ALL STUDENTS.....ALL

NELSON.....NANCY CARTWRIGHT

GROUNDSKEEPER WILLIE....DAN CASTELLANETA

UTER.....TRESS MACNEILLE

MR. LARGO.....HARRY SHEARER

MR. BURNS.....HARRY SHEARER

HOMER'S RECORDING.....DAN CASTELLANETA

SHERRI.....NANCY CARTWRIGHT

JANEY.....PAMELA HAYDEN

LISA'S BRAIN.....YEARDLEY SMITH

GRAMPA.....DAN CASTELLANETA

JASPER.....HARRY SHEARER

MILHOUSE.....PAMELA HAYDEN

MILHOUSE'S BRAIN.....PAMELA HAYDEN

PARAMEDIC.....HANK AZARIA

SNOWBALL II.....DAN CASTELLANETA

MOE.....HANK AZARIA

JIMBO.....PAMELA HAYDEN

DOLPH.....TRESS MACNEILLE

PROF. (DR.) FRINK.....HANK AZARIA

OTTO.....HARRY SHEARER

NED FLANDERS.....HARRY SHEARER

MAUDE FLANDERS.....MAGGIE ROSWELL

SKINNER'S MOM.....TRESS MACNEILLE

LOU.....HANK AZARIA

EDDIE.....HARRY SHEARER

NELSON'S BRAIN.....NANCY CARTWRIGHT

LISA'S DATE WITH DENSITY

by

Mike Scully

ACT ONE

FADE IN:

INT. ELEMENTARY SCHOOL - FACULTY LOUNGE - DAY SCENE 1

All the TEACHERS are crowded around one table eating their lunches. PRINCIPAL SKINNER sits alone at another table eating his. The door bursts open and SUPERINTENDENT CHALMERS enters.

CHALMERS

(ANGRY) Skin-ner!!!

SKINNER

(TERRIFIED) Uh, Superintendent Chalmers! (BREATHING HARD) What's wrong?!

CHALMERS

(HAPPY) Nothing. I just bought myself a car!

SKINNER

(RECOVERING) Oh... oh, good. This will sound crazy but at first I... I thought I'd enraged you again.

CHALMERS

(APPARENTLY FURIOUS) Skin-ner!!!

SKINNER

What?! What?!

CHALMERS

(SUDDENLY JOVIAL:) Now you're getting paranoid.

Skinner, **WHIMPERING**, looks as if he's about to collapse from nervous exhaustion.

CHALMERS (CONT'D)

You know, I used to think a car was just a way of getting from Point A to Point B... and on weekends, Point C. But that was the old me. That man died the moment I laid eyes on the 1979 Honda Accord.

EXT. ELEMENTARY SCHOOL - PARKING LOT - A MINUTE LATER

An eager Chalmers escorts Skinner to his car.

SKINNER

I've always admired car owners. And I hope to be one myself, as soon as I finish paying off Mother. She insists I pay her retroactively for the food I ate as a child.

CHALMERS

(CHUCKLES) Yes, yes, that's unfortunate... Well, Seymour, I make Superintendent money, which amply covers both food and car. (NOTICES SOMETHING O.S.) Holy Jumping Caesar's Catfish!!

We RATCHET IN on his car's hood to see the shadow of a pried-off chrome 'H.'

CHALMERS (CONT'D)

My 'H' has been stolen! Oh! That's how people know it's a Honda!

(FURIOUS) What's the point of having a Honda if you can't show it off?!

SKINNER

(COWERING) Sir, if you'll just stop yelling at me, I'm sure I can find a replacement...

GRUNTING, Skinner starts **PRYING** the 'H' off a nearby Hyundai with a screwdriver.

SKINNER (CONT'D)

I'll just...

KEARNEY looks down from a classroom window.

KEARNEY

Hey, get away from my car!

SKINNER

Uh-oh!

CHALMERS

Uh-oh!

SKINNER

This way!

Skinner drops the screwdriver and he and Chalmers run away.

INT. KWIK-E-MART - THE NEXT MORNING

HOMER has his head poked into the self-serve donut display. Through the Plexiglas, he eyes APU furtively, then brings his purchase to the counter.

HOMER

(WHISTLING TO COVER; THEN, SUSPICIOUSLY) Hey, mornin', Apu.

APU

Good morning. (RINGING IT UP) One donut with sprinkles, and... (NOTICES SOMETHING) (GASP) Wait a minute -- these are not sprinkles, Sir!

HOMER

(STILL COVERING) Whaddya mean?

APU

You have clearly taken items from the candy rack and placed them on top of the donut in an attempt to pass them off as sprinkles!

We see that Homer's donut is covered with large, unwrapped pieces of candy.

HOMER

(PHONY) Well, it was like that when I got here. It really was.

Apu begins plucking the items off the donut.

APU

A Mounds bar is not a sprinkle! A Twizzler is not a sprinkle! A Jolly Rancher is not a sprinkle, Sir! -- Perhaps in Shangri-la they are, but not here!

Homer slinks out with a **MOAN**.

EXT. KWIK-E-MART - CONTINUOUS

Homer is about to get into his car when he notices a **COMMOTION** next door. The COPS are carrying out armloads of telephone equipment, phone books, etc., and dumping them in the trash. CHIEF WIGGUM escorts a handcuffed LOW-LIFE into the back of his squad car.

CHIEF WIGGUM

Ah, looks like we put the kibosh on another two-bit telephone swindle, boys. Frankly, I would've expected better from Jimmy the Scumbag.

Jimmy shrugs sheepishly and gets in the car. Meanwhile, Homer notices a shiny contraption sticking out of the trash -- a computer-sized electronic device with a telephone number readout and lots of buttons and lights.

HOMER

Hey, what's this thing?

CHIEF WIGGUM

Huh? Oh, that's an auto-dialer. (RE: JIMMY) This bird was using it to pull a telemarketing scam, but instead he's gonna rot in the slammer for the next twenty years -- bread and water, icy showers, guards whompin' your ass 'round the clock, and the only way out is suicide.

HOMER

(GETTING AN IDEA) Telemarketing, eh?

INT. ELEMENTARY SCHOOL - HALLWAY - SAME MORNING SCENE 2

Skinner marches sternly past the students, who are lined up in front of their closed lockers. JIMBO, DOLPH, Kearney, and NELSON are elbowing each other, smirking, and **CHUCKLING**.

SKINNER

Oh, you think this stolen 'H' is a laugh riot, don't you? Well, I'll tell you something that's not so funny: right now, Superintendent Chalmers is at home crying like a little girl!

ALL STUDENTS

(UPROARIOUS LAUGHTER)

SKINNER

(CHUCKLE) I guess it is a little funny... (STERN AGAIN) Nonetheless, I will find the culprit. We'll start with, oh, I don't know... (SPINS AROUND AND POINTS) Bart Simpson!

WILLIE pries open the door of BART's locker.

BART

Um, I don't think you want to look in there, sir.

SKINNER

Balderdash. I'll just stick my head right in and --

Skinner starts to poke his head in, and a spring-loaded carton of eggs flies out, **SPLATTERING** him.

SKINNER (CONT'D)

(SCREAMS, THEN) Half a dozen eggs?!

Another six eggs fly out, **SPLATTERING** him again.

SKINNER (CONT'D)

Well, that would be the complete dozen... All right. Rather than tempt fate, I'll move along now.

DISSOLVE TO:

A LITTLE LATER

The lockers of several other troublemakers have been pried open. Skinner arrives at Nelson's locker.

SKINNER

And so we reach the bottom of the barrel: Nelson Muntz.

NELSON

(SINGS A SMALL FANFARE:) Dum-da-da-dum!

SKINNER

The cold, hard process of elimination places the 'H' squarely in your locker!

Willie **JIMMIES** Nelson's door. The locker is empty.

NELSON

Haw haw!

SKINNER

(POUNDING THE WALL) Damn! Dang! Darn!

Skinner's pounding dislodges the rear panel of the locker; it falls off, revealing a secret cubbyhole brimming with stolen goods. Gleaming atop the pile is the missing 'H.'

MUSIC: DRAMATIC STING

SKINNER (CONT'D)

(EXCITED GASP) (TURNS TO NELSON, COCKY:) Well, who's "haw-hawing" now, hmm?

NELSON

(SURLY) Nobody. You got eggs in your ears.

ALL STUDENTS

(ANTICIPATING TROUBLE) Oooooohh...

ON THE STUDENTS

LISA

(TURNS TO MILHOUSE) Who does Nelson think he's impressing, anyway, acting so cool all the time?

MILHOUSE

Not me!

ON SKINNER AND NELSON

SKINNER

(STEAMING) All right, Mr. Smartenheimer, that does it!

Skinner begins pulling out the loot from Nelson's locker.

SKINNER (CONT'D)

First, you're going to give back everything you've stolen, then I'm sentencing you to one week of the lowest, most degrading work known to man: janitorial work.

WILLIE

Aw, Jees, I'm standin' right here, sir.

SKINNER

Ah, yes. (BEAT) Uh, take a good look at him, Nelson, cause that's where you're headed. (EXITS)

INT. ELEMENTARY SCHOOL - GYMNASIUM - LATER THAT DAY

Nelson stands behind a large tarp covered with the stolen items from his locker (including lunchboxes, instruments, skateboards, and a lobster cage with a live lobster inside). Skinner oversees a long line of students who are filing past to reclaim their possessions.

SKINNER

After you claim your stolen merchandise, go directly to Mr. Muntz for an apology.

Nelson is "apologizing" to each victim who files past.

NELSON

Bite me... Cram it... You're dead... Get bent, ma'am...

Lisa approaches Nelson carrying a pair of mittens.

LISA

One of my mitten clips is missing. I can't walk around with just one mitten clipped to my sleeve; I'll look stupid!

NELSON

Tough.

LISA

Why do you have to be such a pain all the time? Don't you realize you're getting a bad reputation?

NELSON

Don't you realize your butt sticks out?

LISA

It does not!

She turns around to look, and Nelson kicks her in the butt.

LISA (CONT'D)

Hey!

NELSON

Haw haw!

Lisa looks annoyed.

INT. SIMPSON HOUSE - LIVING ROOM - THAT NIGHT **SCENE 3**

Homer is setting up his new auto-dialer on the phone table and showing it off to MARGE.

MARGE

An automatic dialer? Is that legal? I don't want you getting arrested, Homer...

HOMER

I won't.

MARGE

Or swindling our neighbors.

HOMER

(SHORT BEAT) Let me show you how it works. This baby has every phone number in town programmed into it. It automatically calls them one by one and plays my message. Listen.

Homer turns on the machine, and its readout **CLICKS** to the first number: 555-0001. As we hear it **DIALING**, we go to a SPLIT SCREEN and see MR. BURNS answer the phone in his study.

BURNS

Ahoy-hoy?

HOMER'S RECORDING (V.O.)

(SLICK) Greetings, friend. Do you wish to look as happy as me? Well, you've got the power inside you right now. So use it. And send one dollar to Happy Dude, 742 Evergreen Terrace, Springfield. Don't delay! Eternal happiness is just a dollar away.

The machine **CLICKS OFF**. Burns **HANGS UP**.

BURNS

(CONSIDERS IT) Hmm. One dollar for eternal happiness... Eh, I'd be happier with the dollar.

END SPLIT-SCREEN

HOMER

(LAUGHS) Now we just sit by the mailbox and watch the money roll in!

MARGE

But you're going to annoy thousands of people just to make a few measly dollars. It's nothing but panhandling!

HOMER

(NODDING PROUDLY) Tele-panhandling.

INT. ELEMENTARY SCHOOL - MUSIC ROOM - THE NEXT DAY

The students in the band look on as Mr Largo indicates the "Concert Program" he's written on the blackboard. It's composed of a long list of infantile songs: "Mary Had a Little Lamb," "Jimmy Crack Corn," "The Bear Went Over the Mountain," etc.

MR. LARGO

... And should there be a request for an encore, we will reprise "Pop Goes the Weasel." Otherwise, we will file out quietly.

ON LISA

She's daydreaming, looking out the window. Outside, Groundskeeper Willie is showing Nelson how to water the shrubs.

WILLIE

And that's how Willie waters. Now ye take the hooze.

He tries to pass Nelson the hose, but Nelson won't take it.

NELSON

(PLAYING DUMB) The moose?

WILLIE

(POINTS TO HOSE) The hooze! The hooze!

Nelson take the hose and pretends not to notice that he's **SPRAYING** Willie.

NELSON

Is this right?

WILLIE

Ach! Turn off the noozle!

NELSON

The noodles? What noodles?

WILLIE

The noozle on the end of the hooze!

Ach!

Lisa breaks into a smile as she watches Nelson drench Willie.

LISA

(SHORT BURST OF LAUGHTER)

The laugh catches Largo's attention. He whirls around to glare at her.

MR. LARGO

Miss Simpson, do you find something funny about the word "tromboner?"

LISA

No, sir. I was laughing at something outside.

SHERRI

She was looking at Nelson!

ALL STUDENTS

Lisa likes Nelson!

MILHOUSE

She does not!

ALL STUDENTS

Milhouse likes Lisa!

JANEY

He does not!

ALL STUDENTS

Janey likes Milhouse!

UTER

She does not!

ALL STUDENTS

Uter likes Milhouse!

MR. LARGO

(FED UP) Nobody likes Milhouse! And Lisa, you've got detention!

Off Lisa's stricken look, we DISSOLVE TO:

INT. ELEMENTARY SCHOOL - MUSIC ROOM - AFTER SCHOOL SCENE 4

The camera PANS ALONG the six large blackboards that line the music room walls, then comes to rest on the first, where Lisa is repeatedly writing the sentence "I WILL NOT BE A SNICKERPUSS." She's only covered a fraction of the first board.

LISA

Oh, how does Bart do this every week?

NELSON (O.S.)

Hey, Brainiac, since when do you get detention?

Lisa turns to see Nelson leaning in the music room window, taking a break from his yard work.

LISA

It's your fault! I accidentally laughed at your immature prank.

NELSON

Haw. Yeah, the best part was when he got wet! (THEN, RE: CHALKBOARD) Hey, you're doin' that the stupid way.

He points to the five-pronged chalkholder used to draw musical staffs.

NELSON (CONT'D)

If you use that deal with the five chalks, you'll get done faster.

LISA

Thanks, but I prefer the honest way.

NELSON

Whatever. Smell ya later!

Nelson leaves. Lisa starts writing again, but then stops and sees the massive black space she still has to fill. She looks around nervously, then picks up the staff holder and begins writing five lines at a time.

DISSOLVE TO:

A LITTLE LATER

Lisa finishes filling the last blackboard.

LISA

Wow, that <u>was</u> a good idea. And I can't believe it came from Nelson.

She walks over to the window and gazes out at Nelson as he swats at a **BUZZING** hornet's nest with a rake.

LISA'S BRAIN (V.O.)

He's not like anybody I've ever met. He's like a riddle wrapped in an enigma wrapped in a vest. (BEAT) He sure is ugly, though. (BEAT) So why can't I stop staring at him?

Her eyes widen in realization.

LISA'S BRAIN (V.O.) (CONT'D)

Oh, no... I think I'm getting a crush on Nelson Muntz!

NELSON

Hey, Willie, catch the football!

As Nelson throws the hornet's nest at an unsuspecting Willie, Lisa looks on dreamily.

WILLIE

All righ-- (SCREAM)

LISA

(DREAMY SIGH)

FADE OUT:

<u>END OF ACT ONE</u>

ACT TWO

FADE IN: **SCENE 5**

INT. SIMPSON HOUSE - LISA'S ROOM - THAT AFTERNOON

Lisa pulls her yearbook off the shelf and flips through it.

LISA

How can I have a crush on Nelson? I don't even know anything about him: his goals, his hobbies, his friends...

She finds Nelson's picture. The caption reads "Goals: None. Hobbies: None. Friends: None."

LISA (CONT'D)

Hmmm. Well, at least we have the same friends. (WEAK CHUCKLE)

Suddenly, there is an odd sound outside -- "Putt-putt-putt-**CRASH**... Putt-putt-putt-**CRASH**." Lisa runs to the window and looks out to see Nelson riding slowly down the street on a mini-bike, knocking over everyone's trash cans with a stick.

NELSON

(CAREFREE WHISTLING)

LISA

Oh, he's such a rebel. Could we really have a future together?

As she watches him, we MATCH DISSOLVE INTO:

LISA'S FANTASY - THE FUTURE

Nelson's mini-bike is now a gleaming Harley, and he's dressed a lot like James Dean. An exhilarated Lisa clings to him as they **ROAR** down the road.

LISA

I've never felt so free! You've shown me how to cast off the shackles of conformity and embrace the warrior soul!

NELSON

Just don't let go of the stick.

We WIDEN TO REVEAL that Lisa is holding out the stick, knocking over dozens of trash cans as they speed by. They pass an adorable storybook cottage with a white picket fence.

LISA

Oh, what a cute little house!

NELSON

You want it, you got it, baby.

He pulls over and runs inside.

NELSON (O.S.)

Beat it!

A SCARED FAMILY immediately runs out the side door. Nelson comes out, picks up Lisa, and carries her over the threshold.

LISA

You're such a good provider, Nelsie.

NELSON

You think that's good? Feast your yams on this!

Nelson opens his duffel bag and pulls out a BABY.

LISA

(THRILLED) Our baby! Ohh, we had a baby!

NELSON

(SWEETLY) Our love created it somehow.

Lisa cradles the baby, then gets a look at its homely mug -- an unpleasant conglomeration of her spikes and his buck teeth.

BACK TO REALITY

Lisa winces.

LISA

Eeew. Well, the house was nice,

anyway.

EXT. SIMPSON HOUSE - THAT AFTERNOON

Homer speeds up in his car, parks haphazardly on the lawn, and dashes to the mailbox. He opens it and finds an envelope addressed to "Happy Dude." He tears it open with his teeth, and two dollars fall out.

HOMER

Woo hoo! Two dollars! It's working!

SMASH CUT TO:

INT. RETIREMENT CASTLE - GRAMPA'S ROOM - THAT MINUTE

GRAMPA and JASPER are staring blankly into space.

GRAMPA

I don't feel any happier. How 'bout

you?

JASPER

Eh... a little.

INT. ELEMENTARY SCHOOL - CAFETERIA - THE NEXT DAY SCENE 6

Lisa is eating lunch with Milhouse. She keeps glancing over at Nelson, who is sitting with Jimbo, Dolph, and Kearney at the thug table in the corner.

LISA

Milhouse, I've never told anyone this kind of thing before... but I've never felt this way before. I think I have a crush...

MILHOUSE

(EXCITED GASP, THEN TRYING TO BE COOL:)

Oh, really?

LISA

...on Nelson Muntz.

This literally knocks the wind out of Milhouse. He **EXHALES** so forcefully through his drinking straw that his milk carton **EXPLODES**, sending milk raining everywhere.

NELSON

(CALLING) Way to drink, Poindexter!

MILHOUSE

You like Nelson?! He's a creep and he chipped one of my permanent teeth!

LISA

But I bet underneath, he's a sweet, sensitive person -- like you. I guess you could say I want to bring out the Milhouse in Nelson.

MILHOUSE

But I'm all Milhouse! Plus, my Mom says I'm the handsomest guy in school!

LISA

I like you, too, Milhouse, but not in that way. You're more like a big sister.

MILHOUSE

No I'm not! Why does everybody keep saying that?!

Lisa takes out a piece of paper and starts writing a note.

LISA

Would you do me a favor? When you get back to class, just give him this note.

MILHOUSE

(WHINY RELUCTANT NOISE)

LISA

(SWEETLY) Please?

The camera PANS UP to Milhouse's brain.

MILHOUSE'S BRAIN (V.O.)

When she sees you'll do anything she says, she's bound to respect you.

MILHOUSE

(TAKES THE NOTE) Sure, what's a big sister for? (LOW, TO HIMSELF:) Oh, I shouldn'ta said that...

INT. ELEMENTARY SCHOOL - KRABAPPEL'S CLASS - A LITTLE LATER

The folded-up note is passed up the row of desks to Nelson. He opens it and reads it quietly.

NELSON

"Guess who likes you?"

Nelson slowly turns around to see who passed him the note. A few rows back, Milhouse looks at him and wiggles his eyebrows expectantly.

SMASH CUT TO:

EXT. ELEMENTARY SCHOOL - MINUTES LATER

Milhouse is wheeled out of the school on a stretcher to a waiting ambulance (**SIREN WAILING**), as a crowd of students looks on. His glasses are broken and he's got a bloody nose. At a nearby drinking fountain, Nelson is frantically washing out his eyes.

NELSON

Augh! My eyes just read a homo note!

Lisa runs up to Milhouse as he's loaded into the ambulance.

LISA

Milhouse, I'm so sorry...

PARAMEDIC

He can't hear you now. We had to pack his ears with gauze.

The ambulance drives away. As the students head back in to class, Lisa catches up with Nelson.

LISA

Nelson! (NERVOUS) Um... that note Milhouse gave you... it wasn't from him. It was from... (BARELY AUDIBLE) me.

NELSON

(LOUD) You? Why would you like me? No girls like me. (SUSPICIOUS) Are you wearing a wire?

LISA

I don't know why I like you. I just do. (AWKWARD BEAT) So... what do you think?

NELSON

It's okay... I guess. Do I have to do anything?

LISA

(BEAT) Well... would you like to come over to my house after school?

NELSON

Okay... But if anybody sees us, I'm just there to steal your bike.

INT. SIMPSON HOUSE - LISA'S ROOM - THAT AFTERNOON

Lisa is showing off SNOWBALL II to Nelson.

LISA

Oh, you've got to see this, it's so cute what she does. Be the baby, kitty. Go on, be the baby.

She tries to put the reluctant cat into a doll carriage, but it splays its legs and cannot be forced in.

LISA (CONT'D)

(GIGGLES; THEN, MORE FRUSTRATED)

C'mon!

SNOWBALL II

(INCREASINGLY ANNOYED MEOWING)

LISA

(FLUSTERED, PUSHING IT IN) Snowball! I - don't - understand. She loves to climb in h--

SNOWBALL II

(FURIOUS HISS)

NELSON

I believe you! I don't care!

The cat **YOWLS**, scratches Lisa, and runs off. Bart enters.

BART

Hey, Lis, Mom said you had the toenail clippers-- (SPOTS NELSON, ALARMED:) Whoa, Lisa! Look out! Nelson's in our house!

LISA

It's okay, I invited him over. Nelson's my new... friend.

Bart pulls Lisa aside.

BART

Are you nuts? I'll probably never say this to you again, but you can do better.

LISA

Please don't ruin this for me, Bart. I think he's starting to like me!

BART

Milhouse likes you.

LISA

Oh, please. Milhouse likes Vaseline on toast.

BART

Oh.

MONTAGE

MUSIC: "MY GUY" BY MARY WELLS

1) EXT. LAKE SPRINGFIELD - DAY SCENE 7

Nelson is skipping stones across the lake as Lisa watches, impressed. We WIDEN TO REVEAL his rocks are hitting other ROMANTIC COUPLES in canoes, **PUNCTURING** and **SINKING** them. MOE yells angrily from his sinking canoe.

MOE

Hey! Hey! You're drownin' my computer date!

2) CLOSE-UP - SOMEWHERE - DAY

We see a CLOSE-UP of Nelson's smiling face poking through a carnival-style cut-out hole in a picture. Lisa **CHUCKLES** with playful disapproval at Nelson's antics, and we WIDEN TO REVEAL that they're in an art museum and that Nelson is sticking his head through Gainsborough's "Blue Boy." Then they are immediately chased out by a furious GUARD.

3) EXT. ELEMENTARY SCHOOL - PLAYGROUND - DAY

Nelson presents Lisa with a large gift-wrapped box.

NELSON

You know that koala bear you like at the zoo? Well, I went to the toy store and I bought one that looks just like it...

LISA

(PLEASED MURMUR)

NELSON

... And then I went to the zoo and

switched it for the real one. Here.

She starts **UNWRAPPING** the box.

NELSON (CONT'D)

Oh, I... I wouldn't open the box,

though. He's pretty mad.

INT. SIMPSON HOUSE - LIVING ROOM - DAY

The auto-dialer **CLICKS** to the next number: 555-5001. As it **DIALS**, we go to...

INT. PROF. FRINK'S LAB - SAME TIME

PROFESSOR FRINK is playing chess against a robot arm which is jumping a piece all over the board.

PROF. FRINK

Aw, pawns can't move that way! You

stupid...

The phone **RINGS**. Frink answers it:

PROF. FRINK (CONT'D)

(ON PHONE) Lab...

We SPLIT-SCREEN with the autodialer.

HOMER'S RECORDING (V.O.)

Greetings, friend. Do you... (ETC.)

PROF. FRINK

(EXCITED GASP) Why it's the AT-5000 Autodialer, my very first patent! (BEAT, SAD) Aw, wouldja listen to the gibberish they've got you saying! It's sad and alarming. You were designed to alert schoolchildren about snow days and such. Well, let's get you home to Frinky. Hope your wheels still work...

Frink **PUNCHES** in a three-digit code on the phone.

IN THE SIMPSON HOUSE

Four wheels on waist-high rods extend out of the bottom of the autodialer. It wheels itself off the table and out the door. When it's halfway down the walk, Homer dashes out and grabs it.

HOMER

Oh, no you don't!

He **SNAPS OFF** all its legs, carries it back inside, and replaces it on the table.

INT. SCHOOL BUS - DUSK

It's nearly dark. Lisa and Nelson are the last students on the bus.

NELSON

You're the first person I've had over to the house since my Dad went nuts.

LISA

This is neat. I've never been to the end of the bus route before.

We see they are driving past a bleak landscape of power lines, chemical refineries, and weird flaming smokestacks. OTTO stops the bus, and Lisa and Nelson get off.

OTTO

Well, so long, Nelson, dude. See you

tomorrow morning at five-thirty.

Otto pulls a blanket over himself, puts an alarm clock on the dash, and goes to sleep.

OTTO (CONT'D)

(CONTENTED SIGH)

EXT. NELSON'S HOUSE - CONTINUOUS

The run-down house looks okay, except the lawn needs mowing, the fence needs fixing, and the DOG needs burying. Nelson lifts up the doormat which says "WELCOME TO KWIK-E-MART" on it. Under the mat, there are hundreds of little bugs crawling around frantically. In the middle of the bugs is the house key. Nelson casually picks up the key and shakes the bugs off. They enter.

INT. NELSON'S ROOM - A FEW MINUTES LATER

Nelson flicks on the light. His room is littered with dirty clothes and food wrappers, but it does have a great stereo. The walls are covered with hostile posters and bumper stickers, including: "SAVE AMERICA: SHOOT A LIBERAL," "BOMB THE ARABS AND TAKE THEIR OIL," and "BOMB THE INDIANS AND TAKE THEIR CASINOS." Lisa reads another one and frowns.

LISA

"Nuke the whales?" You don't really

believe that, do you?

NELSON

I'unno... Gotta nuke <u>somethin'</u>!

LISA

(DRYLY) Touché.

Then she notices a beat-up acoustic guitar on the floor.

LISA (CONT'D)

(PLEASANTLY SURPRISED) You play the

guitar?

NELSON

Oh, yeah, I'm a superstar.

LISA

(SWEETLY) Would you... play a song for me?

NELSON

(SHYLY) Oh... okay.

He picks up the guitar, **TUNES IT** skillfully, and plays a few **MELODIC WARM-UP CHORDS**. Then he launches into a discordant, hyperactive performance:

NELSON (CONT'D)

(TO THE TUNE OF "JOY TO THE WORLD")

Joy to the world / The teacher's dead! / We bar-b-qued her head! / What happened to her bod-d-y? / We flushed it down the pot-t-y! / And round and round it goes / And round and round it... goes --

LISA

(SELF-RIGHTEOUS) I wish I could laugh at the idea of a teacher being decapitated.

NELSON

(DOESN'T UNDERSTAND) (CHUCKLES; PROUD:) I know. Haw. It's funny, huh?

LISA

Hardly.

NELSON

(UNCOMFORTABLE BEAT, THEN:) Listen, I'm gettin' pretty tired. I'm goin' to go to sleep for a while. Smell ya later!

Nelson lays down on the bed facing the wall.

LISA

How am I supposed to get home?

NELSON

(CASUAL) I 'unno. Y'shoulda thought of that before you came over. Hee.

EXT. NELSON'S HOUSE - AN HOUR LATER **SCENE 8**

A steaming Lisa sits on the curb next to a pay phone down the street from Nelson's. Marge pulls up in the station wagon, **RACING THE ENGINE**.

MARGE

Hurry, Lisa! My night blindness will be starting soon!

Lisa gets in, and they **SCREECH** away.

INT. STATION WAGON - A LITTLE LATER

MARGE

I'm sorry things didn't work out for you, sweetheart. (BEAT) Am I still on the road?

LISA

Pretty much. (BEAT) I feel so stupid, Mom. Nelson's not right for me at all. And I don't think he ever will be.

MARGE

Well, most women will tell you that you're a fool to think you can change a man... but those women are quitters!

LISA

(CONFUSED) What?

MARGE

When I first met your father, he was loud, crude, and piggish. But I worked hard on him, and now he's a whole new person!

LISA

(DUBIOUS) Mom...

MARGE

(IN DENIAL, FIRMLY:) He's a whole new person, Lisa!

She stares at Lisa with a creepy, pleading look.

LISA

(HUMORING HER) Oh, I know.

MARGE

(SATISFIED GRUNT)

LISA

(BEAT) I wonder if I could change Nelson...

SMASH CUT TO:

INT. "WEE MONSIEUR" CHILDREN'S CLOTHING STORE - THE NEXT DAY

Nelson stands in front of the mirror wearing an argyle sweater vest, grey wool long pants, and saddle shoes. His hair is neatly combed, and he looks like he stepped out of the autumn J. Crew catalog. Lisa checks the fit and smiles.

LISA

Very sharp!

NELSON

Aw, but I feel like such a tool!

LISA

I know it's a change, but it really highlights your sweet and sensitive side.

NELSON

Aw, crap.

EXT. SPRINGFIELD OBSERVATORY - DUSK

The observatory sits on a hill overlooking Springfield and is surrounded by a grassy picnic area. Nelson, still in his new clothes, and Lisa relax on a blanket with a picnic basket. They have a romantic view of the night sky and the city lights below.

LISA

Isn't it nice up here? What are you thinking, Nelson?

NELSON

What am I thinking about what?

LISA

About anything.

NELSON

Nothin'.

LISA

(SIGHS, BUT DOESN'T GIVE UP:) What do you feel? What's inside you right now?

NELSON

Guts and black stuff... and about fifty Slim Jims.

LISA

(FRUSTRATED) Come on, Nelson! You must think and feel things. I mean, look where we are: a rolling green hillside, the stars coming out like God is lighting a million tiny candles, the moon looking down on us as if to say...

Nelson abruptly leans over and gives Lisa a **KISS**.

LISA'S BRAIN (V.O.)

(HAPPY GASP) My first kiss! I always wondered what it would be like!

NELSON'S BRAIN (V.O.)

(WHILE KISSING) This oughta shut her up. (BEAT, SURPRISED:) Hey, this isn't so bad...

We hear a **ROMANTIC MUSIC SWELL** and...

FADE OUT:

END OF ACT TWO

ACT THREE

FADE IN:

EXT. SPRINGFIELD OBSERVATORY - CONTINUOUS **SCENE 9**

Nelson and Lisa finish their kiss.

NELSON

(BEAT) That was pretty fine.

LISA

See, you do have a tender side. You just needed someone to bring it out.

NELSON

(FEELING HIS LIPS) Yeah, that was pretty rockin'...

Nelson takes Lisa's hand and looks into her eyes. Just as he's about to kiss her again, three menacing shadows fall over them. They look up to see Jimbo, Dolph, and Kearney glaring at them.

DOLPH

Oh, man! You kissed a girl!

JIMBO

That is so gay!

LISA

Listen, you thugs, stop making fun of him or you'll be sorry!

JIMBO/DOLPH/KEARNEY

(BACKING AWAY IN MOCK FEAR) Whoooooaa!

LISA

You'll be so sorry when you realize how you've hurt the feelings of a sweet young man!

In the background, Nelson looks incredibly embarrassed.

NELSON

(EMBARRASSED SOUNDS)

LISA

(STILL TO THE BULLIES) He's not like you anymore! He's changed! And he doesn't want to hang around with a bunch of crumb-bums!

JIMBO

(GENUINELY OFFENDED) Crumb-bums?! Nobody calls me a crumb-bum!

Jimbo makes a fist. Nelson leaps up to protect Lisa.

NELSON

Hey, back off, James!

Lisa looks proudly at Nelson and then defiantly at Jimbo.

NELSON (CONT'D)

I'll handle this, Lisa. You go have a fig bar.

Lisa takes a fig bar from the basket and goes to sit at a nearby picnic table, out of earshot. (She periodically glances over at the bullies with a sour expression.)

NELSON (CONT'D)

(SOTTO, TO JIMBO:) Hey, thanks for embarrassing me, dingus!

DOLPH

You asked for it, man. You're broadcasting geek rays over the entire valley.

NELSON

'Fraid not! I'm still wicked bad.

JIMBO

Oh, yeah? Then prove it, assbutt.

Come raid Skinner's house with us.

KEARNEY

We found a bunch of rancid cole slaw in

the dumpster behind KrustyBurger...

He holds up a dripping cardboard box filled with hundreds of individual cups of cole slaw.

DOLPH

Yeah, and we're gonna go heave it at

his house!

NELSON

(EXCITED) Cool! I'd love to get even

with him...

But then he sees Lisa smiling at him, and sags.

NELSON (CONT'D)

... eh... eh, but I better not.

He turns resignedly and walks back over to her.

JIMBO/DOLPH/KEARNEY

Chic-ken! / Lame-o! / Girl lover! /

Fancy pants! / Charlatan! (AD LIB

CATCALLS AND CHICKEN SOUNDS)

As the bullies leave, Nelson glances back at them ruefully. Then he sits down with Lisa.

LISA

You got rid of them! And you did it like a gentleman, without any violence.

NELSON

Yeah... I know you don't like that stuff.

A meteor **ZOOMS** past in the night sky.

LISA

Ah, look, Nelson, a falling star! Make a wish!

The meteor immediately crashes into the public library, causing a **MASSIVE EXPLOSION**.

NELSON

It came true!

SCENE 10

INT. SIMPSON HOUSE - LIVING ROOM - LATE THAT NIGHT

The auto-dialer is on number 555-8904 and is flashing "REDIAL"; we hear it **DIALING**.

INT. SIMPSON HOUSE - MASTER BEDROOM - SAME TIME

Homer and Marge are asleep in bed. Through the window, we see NED and Maude FLANDERS in their bed. The Flanders' phone **RINGS**, and Ned answers it.

NED

(SLEEPY) Howdilly-doodilly.

HOMER'S RECORDING (V.O.)

Greetings, friend. Do you... (ETC.)

Ned **HANGS UP**.

NED

Ach! It was that darn recording again!

MAUDE

Of course it was! It's been calling all night. Just unplug the phone.

The phone **RINGS** again. Ned answers it.

NED

Howdilly-dood...

HOMER'S RECORDING (V.O.)

Greetings, friend...

NED

Dang!

He **HANGS UP** again.

MAUDE

I told you to unplug the phone!

The phone **RINGS**.

NED

But it could be my mother! (ANSWERS PHONE) Howdi...

HOMER'S RECORDING (V.O.)

Greetings, friend...

NED

Shoot!

MAUDE

That's it, Ned! If you don't unplug that phone right now, you're sleeping on the lawn!

HOMER

(YELLS OUT WINDOW) Will you two shut up?! People are trying to sleep!!

ESTABLISHING SHOT - SKINNER'S HOUSE - LATE THAT NIGHT

INT. SKINNER'S HOUSE - CONTINUOUS

Principal Skinner is asleep in bed. He is jolted awake by a **SERIES OF THUDS** against the walls of his house.

SKINNER

Great Barrier Reef! We're under attack!

A sunburst of cole slaw **EXPLODES** on his window.

SKINNER (CONT'D)

Ptui!

EXT. SKINNER'S HOUSE - CONTINUOUS

Jimbo, Dolph, and Kearney are out on Skinner's lawn, hurling the individual servings of rancid cole slaw at his house. Dozens of drippy blobs cover the windows, walls, and porch.

JIMBO

Eat slaw, Skinner!

KEARNEY

We're slawin' him up good!

DOLPH

Nelson doesn't know what he's missin'.

JIMBO

Why's he wasting his time with that Simpson chick?

NELSON (O.S.)

'Cause your mom had a three month

waiting list!

The guys whirl around to see Nelson behind them.

JIMBO/DOLPH/KEARNEY

All right! / I knew you'd be back! /

What'd you say about my mom?!

They high-five each other and **AD-LIB** greetings.

NELSON

(SINCERE) I missed you guys. Let's

never fight again.

Nelson takes off his sweater vest, grabs some cole slaw containers, and hurls them at Skinner's house. We hear **MORE THUDS** as the guys join in.

INT. SKINNER'S HOUSE - CONTINUOUS

Skinner is standing in the dark by a downstairs window.

SKINNER

Who's out there? Give me your names so

I can tell the police!

From upstairs, we hear...

SKINNER'S MOM (O.S.)

Seymour! What's going on? What's that

odor?

SKINNER

Go back to bed, Mother! I've got it

under control. (YELLING OUT WINDOW)

Listen, you crumb-bums, if you think

I'm impressed, I am not!

Skinner peeks out the window to see the boys are now mooning him.

SKINNER (CONT'D)

(OUTRAGED GASP) I... ah, brandishing your buttocks is only getting me angrier!

SKINNER'S MOTHER (O.S)

I want to see what's going on!

SKINNER

No, Mother, don't look out the window!

SKINNER'S MOTHER (O.S.)

(SCREAM)

SKINNER

Is there anyone in this town who does what I say?

OUTSIDE

We hear **POLICE SIRENS** approaching.

NELSON

Cops! Everybody split up!

The guys split up and run. Chief Wiggum pulls up, followed by EDDIE and LOU.

CHIEF WIGGUM

Uh, what's wrong, Skinner? I heard you scream.

SKINNER

(NERVOUS CHUCKLE) That was Mother's scream.

CHIEF WIGGUM

("SURE") Uh, right... So what was

"Mother" screaming about?

EXT. SIMPSON HOUSE - 4:00 A.M. **SCENE 11**

We hear **SIRENS BLARING** in the distance. Nelson emerges from the hedges into the Simpson yard and throws one of his saddle shoes up at a window; it hits with a **SOFT THUD**

NELSON

(LOUD WHISPER) Lisa! The cops are

chasing me. I need a place to hide!

Homer **OPENS THE WINDOW.**

HOMER

Lisa's window is the next one!

We hear a **PHONE RINGING** at the Flanders'.

NED (O.S.)

Howdilly-doodily...

HOMER'S RECORDING (V.O.)

Greetings, friend...

MAUDE (O.S.)

(FURIOUS) Ned, did you plug that phone

back in?!

HOMER

Shut up!!

Homer **SLAMS** the window shut and goes back to bed. We MOVE AROUND the corner of the house to see Lisa leaning out her window, listening to Nelson down below.

NELSON

...and I wasn't even there, honest!

Skinner's just out to get me!

LISA

That's so unfair!

Suddenly, two cop cars (with **SIRENS ROARING**) **SCREECH** up to the house.

NELSON

Uh-oh.

LISA

Meet me at the back door!

SMASH CUT TO:

INT. SIMPSON HOUSE - FOYER - MOMENTS LATER

The cops **BURST** in.

CHIEF WIGGUM

Aha! I had a feeling we'd find you here!

Wiggum draws his gun and **SHOOTS** three times.

LOU

No!!

EDDIE

What'd you do that for?

We WIDEN TO REVEAL Wiggum has shot the auto-dialer full of holes.

CHIEF WIGGUM

Well, that thing's been drivin' the whole town nuts! Got me out of the bath seven times. Seven!

Homer comes **RUNNING DOWN** the stairs.

HOMER

Hey, who shot the auto-dialer? (SEES COPS, EYES DART) Marge's auto-dialer?

Wiggum hands Homer a summons.

CHIEF WIGGUM

See ya in court, Simpson. (INDICATES AUTO-DIALER) Oh, and, uh, bring that evidence with ya, otherwise I got no case and you'll go scot-free, y'know.

LOU

Uh, Chief, what about those cole slaw punks?

CHIEF WIGGUM

Well, I... I can't be everywhere at once, Lou, now can I? You know, in most cities, the Chief of Police doesn't even go out on calls like these.

EDDIE & LOU

(AD LIB THANKS) Yeah, we know. / We appreciate it. / We know we're lucky. / 'Count our blessings every day. / We're very appreciative...

EXT. STREETS OF SPRINGFIELD - DAWN

THROUGH A BINOCULAR MATTE, we see the police cars turn off their flashing lights and return to the station.

LISA (O.S.)

I think they're giving up.

We PULL BACK TO REVEAL that Lisa is watching this through the coin-operated binoculars outside the...

EXT. SPRINGFIELD OBSERVATORY - CONTINUOUS

NELSON

Thanks for helpin' me out. You're a stand-up babe.

He gives her an affectionate slap on the back and steps up to look through the binoculars.

NELSON (CONT'D)

Hey, check it out. Skinner's moppin' the goo off his house.

Nelson moves over so each of them can look through one eyepiece.

BINOCULAR P.O.V.

They see Skinner scrubbing off the outside of his house with a mop.

NELSON (CONT'D)

Wait'll he finds what I left in his birdbath!

SKINNER (O.S.)

(BARELY AUDIBLE DISTANT SCREAM)

Abruptly, the binocular shutter closes with an **OMINOUS CLUNK** as its time runs out. The SCREEN GOES BLACK.

BACK TO SCENE **SCENE 12**

Lisa, crestfallen, turns to face Nelson.

LISA

I thought you weren't there.

NELSON

Huh? Oh, yeah, uh, I guess I was.

LISA

You lied to me.

NELSON

Nuh-uh!

LISA

There, you did it again!

NELSON

All right, all right, I lied! I'm sorry. Let's kiss.

LISA

No. You don't understand, Nelson. A kiss doesn't mean anything if it's dishonest.

NELSON

(TRYING TO BE SENSITIVE) Um... there's a niceness to it...

LISA

I was foolish to think I'd actually changed you. Maybe I was seeing things in you that weren't really there.

NELSON

(NODS) Definitely.

LISA

Then why did you want to be with me?

NELSON

(SHRUGS) Mmm-hmm. Maybe 'cause you were the first person that ever thought there was a nice guy inside me. I had to make sure you were wrong.

LISA

(SIGH) Well, I guess this is it...

NELSON

You mean, like, goodbye?

LISA

Let's just call it "Smell ya later."

They share a bittersweet smile, and we DISSOLVE TO...

EXT. STREET - SUNRISE

Lisa is walking home. She passes the Van Houten house, where Milhouse is standing outside in his pajamas, holding a PEKINGESE on a leash.

MILHOUSE

Hi, Lisa! Can I talk to you, or would that just make Nelson whale on me again?

LISA

Don't worry. Nelson and I don't like each other anymore.

MILHOUSE

(EXCITED GASP) Really? (HOPEFUL) You got anybody in mind for your next crush?

LISA

(DRYLY) Well, I'm really not thinking about that now.

As she starts to walk off into the distance...

LISA (CONT'D)

(SHRUGS) I suppose it could be almost anybody...

MILHOUSE

(LEAPS EXULTANTLY) Yesssss!!

FADE OUT:

THE END

OVER THE CLOSING CREDITS

We hear the familiar **CLICK** of the auto-dialer.

HOMER'S RECORDING (V.O.)

Hello, this is Homer Simpson, a.k.a. "Happy Dude." The court has ordered me to call every person in town to apologize for my telemarketing scam. (BEAT) I'm sorry. If you can find it in your heart to forgive me, send one dollar to Sorry Dude, 742 Evergreen Terrace, Springfield... You have the power.

END OF CLOSING CREDITS